

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 GENEVA 03199 290929Z  
ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 OIC-02 AF-10 ARA-06 EA-07 EUR-12  
NEA-10 SSM-03 TRSE-00 ACDA-07 OES-06 HEW-04 AID-05  
OMB-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03  
NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06  
/132 W

-----290932Z 046876 /14/46

P R 281645Z APR 77  
FM USMISSION GENEVA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6913  
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN  
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT  
AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST  
AMEMBASSY CAIRO  
AMEMBASSY DAKAR  
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS  
AMEMBASSY JAKARTA  
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM  
AMEMBASSY JIDDA  
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV  
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 3199

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y F O R T E X T / R E - N U M B E R P A R A S /

E.O.11652: GDS  
TAGS: WHO, PFOR, PORG, IS, XF  
SUBJECT: ARAB-ISRAELI ISSUES IN WHO

REF: (A) GENEVA 2930; (B) TEL AVIV 2923

1. FOLLOWING UP ON THE APRIL 8 DISCUSSION (REF B)  
CHARGE TELEPHONED WHO DIRECTOR GENERAL MAHLER APRIL 28  
TO INQUIRE FURTHER INTO THE STATUS OF PREPARATIONS  
BEING MADE FOR HANDLING THE ARAB-ISRAELI ISSUE AT THE  
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PAGE 02 GENEVA 03199 290929Z

WHO ASSEMBLY. MAHLER CONFIRMED OUR INFORMATION THAT THE  
COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS PRESENTLY WAS AT WORK HERE PREPAR-  
ING ITS REPORT TO THE ASSEMBLY, AND HE EXPECTED TO SEE  
THE FINAL PRODUCT BY THE END OF THE DAY. HE SAID THAT  
A RESPONSE HAD BEEN RECEIVED FORM ISRAIL TO THE  
COMMITTEE'S LETTER OF APRIL 7, AND DESCRIBED ITS  
CONTENTS ALONG LINES SIMILAR TO THOSE REPORTED REF B.

HE DID NOT SEEM DISTURBED BY THE LETTER, CHARACTERIZING IT AS "KEEPING THE DOOR OPEN."

2. MAHLER SAID THAT HE EXPECTS TO MEET WITH ARAB HEALTH MINISTERS APRIL 29, AND WHEN ASKED (SOMEWHAT IN THE CONTEXT) HOW HE PLANNED TO MAKE INITIAL DISSEMINATION OF THE COMMITTEE REPORT, HE QUICKLY VOLUNTEERED TO GIVE THE MISSION A COPY AS SOON AS IT APPEARS IN ITS FIRST LANGUAGE VERSION.

3. A RUMOR IS MAKING THE ROUNDS THAT A MOVE MAY BE AFOOT TO EJECT ISRAEL FROM THE MIDDLE EAST REGIONAL GROUPING OF WHO. (THE REGIONAL GROUP IS DIVIDED INTO TWO COMMITTEES, AND ISRAEL IS IN THE MINORITY COMMITTEE, WHICH WE UNDERSTAND MEETS SELDOM IF EVER. THE ARABS COMPOSE THE OTHER COMMITTEE.) MAHLER SAID HE TOO HAD JUST HEARD THIS RUMOR, AND HE EXPRESSED CONSTERNATION ABOUT IT BECAUSE IT WAS TURNING A FACTUAL DEVELOPMENT UPSIDE DOWN.

4. ACCORDING TO MAHLER THIS ISSUE WAS GIVEN BIRTH BY ISRAEL EARLIER IN THE YEAR WHEN A PROFESSOR DAVIS (PHONETIC SPELLING) WROTE TO WHO ON BEHALF OF ISRAELI AUTHORITIES TO INQUIRE INTO THE MODALITIES BY WHICH ISRAEL MIGHT BE TRANSFERRED FROM THE MIDDLE EAST REGION TO THE EUROPEAN REGION. MAHLER ATTEMPTED TO HANDLE THE INQUIRY AS DISCREETLY AS POSSIBLE, BUT A FORMAL RESPONSE WAS MADE BY WHO EXPLAINING THAT THE MOVE WOULD REQUIRE APPROVAL BY GOVERNMENTS.  
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PAGE 03 GENEVA 03199 290929Z

5. MAHLER WAS ALARMED, OF COURSE, ABOUT THE POLITICAL COMPLICATIONS WHICH THIS POORLY TIMED ISRAELI INITIATIVE COULD PRECIPITATE, AND HE ASKED THE ISRAELI AMBASSADOR TO CONVEY HIS REACTION, AND IN GREATEST CONFIDENCE, TO THE ISRAELI AUTHORITIES. HE FINDS IT INCREDIBLE THAT ISRAEL SHOULD CHOOSE THIS JUNCTURE TO INTRODUCE INTO WHO THIS NEW AND INEVITABLY CONTENTIOUS QUESTION. MAHLER IMPLIED THAT HE BLAMED SUBSEQUENT ISRAELI INDISCRETIONS FOR THE RUMORS WHICH HAVE FOLLOWED.  
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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** MEETING AGENDA, HEALTH, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS, MEETING REPORTS  
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**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Document Source:** CORE  
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**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Reference:** 77 GENEVA 2930, 77 TEL AVIV 2923  
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**Subject:** ARAB-ISRAELI ISSUES IN WHO  
**TAGS:** PFOR, PORG, IS, XF, US, WHO  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
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